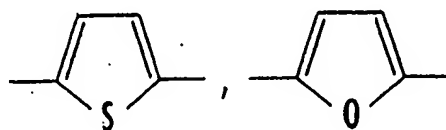


AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph found at page 5, lines 6-10 of the specification as follows:

Examples of the divalent organic group include electron attracting groups, e.g., -CO-, -CONH-, $-(CF_2)_p$ - ("p" is an integer of 1 to 10), $-C(CF_3)_2$ -, -COO-, -SO- and -SO₂-; ~~groups such as O-, S-, CH=CH- and C≡C-; and electron donating groups~~ electron donating groups, e.g., -O-, -S-, -CH=CH-, and -C≡C-; and groups represented by the following formula:



Please amend the paragraph found at page 6, lines 9-16 of the specification as follows:

In the general formula (1'), X is ~~a halogen atom (chlorine, bromine or iodine) except fluorine, or an atom or a group selected from~~ a halogen atom (chlorine, bromine or iodine) except fluorine, or a group the group consisting of -OSO₃CH₃ and -OSO₃CF₃; and R is a hydrocarbon group of 4 to 20 carbon atoms. In the general formula (2'), R' and R" which may be the same or different are a halogen atom except fluorine or a group ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ -OSO₂Z (Z is an alkyl, fluorine-substituted alkyl or aryl group).

Please amend the paragraph found at page 8, line 15, through page 9, line 2, of the specification as follows:

(wherein, -X- is a single bond or a divalent organic group; -W- is a divalent electron attracting group; -T- is a divalent organic group; R¹ to R⁸ are a hydrogen atom or fluorine atom, an alkyl group, ~~allyl~~ aryl group, allyl group or cyano group, and may be the same or different; "p" is 0.5 to 100; "q" is 99.5 to 0; "r" is an integer of 0 to 10; and "s" is an integer of 1 to 100).

Please amend the paragraph found at page 9, lines 6-12 of the specification as follows:

~~The electrode structure for polymer electrolyte fuel cells includes the sulfonated polyarylene for the polymer electrolyte membrane, and the electrode catalyst layer containing a noble metal catalyst at 0.1 to 1.0 mg/cm², exhibiting an excellent power production capacity, because the carbon particles supporting the catalyst have an average size of 10 to 100 nm.~~ According to the electrode structure for polymer electrolyte fuel cells of the present invention, an excellent power production capacity can be achieved because the sulfonated polyarylene is used for the polymer electrolyte membrane while the electrode catalyst layer contains a noble metal catalyst at 0.1 to 1.0 mg/cm², and the carbon particles supporting the catalyst have an average size of 10 to 100 nm. Examples of the noble metal catalyst are those of platinum, rhodium and platinum-rhodium.

Please amend the paragraph found at page 12, lines 14-18 of the specification as follows:

Examples of the divalent organic group include electron attracting groups, e.g., -CO-, -CONH-, $-(CF_2)_p$ - ("p" is an integer of 1 to 10), $-C(CF_3)_2$ -, -COO-, -SO- and -SO₂-; ~~groups such as O, S, CH=CH and C≡C; and electron donating groups~~ electron donating groups, e.g., -O-, -S-, -CH=CH-, and -C≡C-; and groups represented by the following formula:

